

# **CITY OF ZILLAH**

## **2008 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT (CCR)**

### **INTRODUCTION**

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

### **Consumer Confidence Report Translation**

“Este Informe contiene informacion muy importante. Traduscalo o hable con un amigo quien lo entienda bien.”

### **Where can I find out more information about my drinking water?**

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Tim Tilley, P.W.D. at Zillah City Hall or call 829-5151. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held at the council chambers located at 111 7<sup>th</sup> St. Zillah. The meetings are the first and third Monday of each month at 7:00p.m. General drinking water issues can also be directed to the following contacts:

Environmental Protection  
Agency (EPA)  
Safe Drinking Water Act  
Hotline  
**(1-800-426-4791)**

State Department of Health  
Suite 305  
1500 West Fourth Avenue  
Spokane, WA 99204  
**(509) 456-3115**

### **DESCRIPTION OF THE CITY'S WATER SYSTEM**

Zillah derives its drinking water supply from groundwater wells. Wells No. 1 and 3 draw from the Ellensburg Formation aquifer. Well No. 2 draws from the Saddle Mountain Basalt aquifer. The wells pump groundwater to two storage reservoirs that provide protection against fire, power outages, and high water use periods. Water is carried from the wells and reservoirs to customers' homes through approximately 17.4 miles of water distribution pipes.

## Definitions

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

*Non-Detects (ND)* - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

*Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)* - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

*Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter* - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

*Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l)* - one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

*Variances & Exemptions (V&E)* - State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

*Action Level (AL)* - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

*Treatment Technique (TT)* - (mandatory language) A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

*Maximum Contaminant Level* - (mandatory language) The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

*Maximum Contaminant Level Goal* - (mandatory language) The "Goal"(MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

## Water Quality Monitoring

The City of Zillah routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2007. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination

### Microbiological Contaminants

Total Coliform Bacteria	No	0		0	(systems that collect 40 or more samples per month) 5% of monthly samples are positive; (systems that collect fewer than 40 samples per month) 1 positive monthly sample	Naturally present in the environment
-------------------------	----	---	--	---	--	--------------------------------------

### Radioactive Contaminants

All results did not exceed the MCL.

### Inorganic Contaminants

Nitrate(as Nitrogen)						Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Rainier Well = SO1	No	2.46	Mg/L	10	10	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Ave. Well =SO2	No	<0.05	Mg/L			
Wippco Well =SO3	No	2.48	Mg/L			

### Copper and Lead Monitoring

Rainier Well=SO1	Copper results	0.00210	Lead results	<0.005
Third Ave. Well=SO2	Copper results	0.00270	Lead results	0.0006
Wippco Well=SO3	Copper results	<0.002	Lead results	<0.005

All results did not exceed the MCL.

## **Total Coliform Monitoring**

Routine total coliform samples are required each month. We are pleased to announce all sample test results in 2007 have been negative. (Good)

**Total Coliform:** The Total Coliform Rule requires water systems to meet a stricter limit for coliform bacteria. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, television or radio.

## **Radionuclide Monitoring**

**Beta/photon emitters.** Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit forms of radiation known as photons and beta radiation. Some people who drink water containing beta and photon emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

**Alpha emitters.** Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

## **Nitrate Monitoring**

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider.

**Nitrates:** As a precaution we always notify physicians and health care providers in this area if there is ever a higher than normal level of nitrates in the water supply.

## **Copper and Lead Monitoring**

**Copper.** Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.

**Lead.** Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

## **GENERAL HEALTH EFFECTS INFORMATION**

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Please call our office if you have questions.

**We at the City of Zillah work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.**